Failure of Northern Grid

†429. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Northern Grid which supply power to Uttar Pradesh, Haryana and Delhi is on the verge of collapse;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government would formulate any strategy to streamline the power supply in the country particularly in metros; and

(d) if so, by when and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. During the year 2000-01 (up to 24th July, 2000) there has not been any grid disturbance in the Northern Region.

(c) and (d) In order to improve availability of power and generation capacity and make optimal use of the available power resources in the country, the following measures have been taken:—

(i) Expeditious implementation of capacity addition programme. The installed capacity of power in the country has increased to 97836.88 MW on 31.3.2000.

(ii) Promotion of measures for demand side management.

(iii) Renovation and modernisation (R&M) of existing old generating units.

(iv) Disbursement of loans by Power Finance Corporation for improving operation and maintenance of thermal power stations under accelerated generation programme.

(v) Promotion of inter-state and inter-regional power transfers.

(vi) Coordinated operation of Hydro, thermal, nuclear and gas turbine power stations in the regional power system.

(vii) Augmentation of transmission, transformation capacity in the power system and installation of shunt capacitors to improve the voltage.

(viii) Reduction of transmission and distribution losses.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.